

CHAPTER NO. 146

SENATE BILL NO. 895

By Rochelle, Kurita, Williams, Haynes

Substituted for: House Bill No. 857

By McDonald, Bone, West, Davidson, Hood, Rhinehart, Boyer, Walker, Dunn, Maddox,
Fitzhugh

AN ACT To amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 16, Part 5, relative to
offenses committed against law enforcement officers.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 16, Part 5, is
amended by adding the following as a new section:

39-16-5__.

(a) It is an offense to knowingly activate and point a laser pointer
or other device utilizing a laser beam at a person known to be a law
enforcement officer while the officer is in the performance of such
officer's official duties with the intent to place such officer in fear of
serious bodily injury or death.

(b) In order for subsection (a) to apply:

(1) The law enforcement officer must actually be placed
in fear of serious bodily injury or death;

(2) The fear must be real or honestly believed to be real
at the time; and

(3) Based upon the facts and circumstances
surrounding the defendant's conduct, the fear must be founded
upon reasonable grounds.

(c) A violation of this section is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2 This act shall take effect July 1, 1999, the public welfare requiring
it.

PASSED: May 3, 1999


JOHN S. WILDER
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE


JIMMY NAIFEH, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 14th day of May 1999


DON CONQUIST, GOVERNOR